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82-0731/4

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William J. Casey, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

3 June 1982

I was most favorably impressed to have heard your talk to members of the Commonwealth Club of California, in San Francisco, the 21st of May. In particular, I recall your closing thoughts, extracted as follows: "What is needed in the Third World is...entrepreneurial activity suited to the prevailing level of economic opportunity. That's the vision which President Reagan projected at the Cancun Summit. We now need private sector leadership to encourage and show American small and medium-size business how to move offshore and involve themselves in the world."

Your point, which was well received, seemed correct and important to those that heard it here with whom I discussed it, but we were somewhat wondering whether this was a personal wish, or whether this thought reflected any official policy worthy of government implementation, either via the CIA, State, or Commerce apparatus.

I would very much appreciate it if you could tell me where any focus of interest in your thought might repose.

I personally feel that your idea is fully as important as pre-war military action, religious missions, trade pressures, diplomacy, ideology, etc. To win the "hearts and minds" of men in the Third World may be the key to our alliance system against Russian communist imperialism and to create the stimulation of productive economic endeavors can create the hope needed to turn minds away from the desperation of communist appeals.

Your considered response would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

H.C. Peterson

H.C. Peterson,
Partner